



# Mid-Atlantic Chapter Solid Waste Association of North America

## SOLID WASTE NEWS For Waste Professionals

July 20, 2009

### President's Message



Looks like the President's  
Gone Fishin'

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#### SWANA Mission Statement:

*"Advancing the practice of economically and environmentally sound solid waste management in North America."*

# KCI Technologies Goes Green

By: *Jonathan Meyers, E.I.*  
*KCI Technologies, Inc.*

It seems like a long time ago that Kermit the Frog sang about how difficult it is to be green. Today, the green movement is sweeping across the world, touching the food and commodities markets, sparking public discussion, and dramatically affecting solid waste management at the grass roots as well as regulatory levels.

On June 10, 2009 KCI Technologies, Inc. hosted the SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Board of Directors meeting at the brand new corporate headquarters in Sparks, Maryland. The building, constructed for KCI by Cignal Corp, hosts over 550 engineers, scientists, and construction managers. It also proves the time-honored adage that beauty is more than skin deep; KCI is currently pursuing a U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for the five-level, brick and glass structure.



Following the chapter meeting and lunch, Amy Lambert, KCI Associate and Green Committee chairperson, hosted a tour of the building and pointed out some of the obvious and not-so obvious energy-saving and pollution reduction features: light and environmental controls adjust automatically to ambient light and temperature, white noise buffers attenuate office background noise, water-efficient landscaping and indigenous plantings reduce water consumption, and a robust recycling program diverts tons of waste from landfills each year.



The materials used in construction were selected from guidelines stressing high recycled material content, and local manufacturing products. Both of these criteria reduce the amount of fuel required to process and transport materials, but they don't detract from the aesthetic or functional qualities.

Often overlooked in discussions about green construction and technology, however, is the human factor. At KCI headquarters, the employee is put first with comfortable offices, open floor plans that encourage collaboration, great meeting and conference rooms, and a well-appointed gym and locker room facility. The employee Health and Fitness Committee supports and encourages healthy activities.

From the gleaming lobby, alive with sparkling recycled glass tiles, to the subdued and comforting low volatile organic compound (VOC) emitting hues that cover the walls--it just doesn't seem like it really is that difficult to be green, after all. Sorry, Kermit.

# Maryland Environmental Service

## Morgan Tire Cleanup Project

By: *Michael Klasmeier, Management Specialist*  
*Maryland Environmental Service*

The final phase of work is complete at the Morgan Tire Cleanup Site in Mechanicsville, St. Mary's County, MD. Maryland Environmental Service (MES) and its Contractor, The Dirt Express Company of Glen Burnie, MD began operations in October 2007 as a straightforward cleanup and restoration of an estimated 80,000 tires on three acres of wooded ravines. Soon after cleanup operations began, however, cleanup crews discovered the pile contained a buried lift of "pancaked" tires.



After reviewing site conditions, MES and MDE revised their tire estimate to 160,000 tires. Additional funding was required to dispose of the greater quantity of tires. MDE thus sought and obtained Board of Public Works approval to complete the job.



Tire removal and disposal was complete by March 2008. Without the tires present, the gaping hole in the hillside presented an erosion problem. MES solved the unstable slope issue by importing and placing several hundred yards of fill dirt.

MES worked with its design Engineer, KCE Engineering, Inc. to layout a series of 3 earthen benches at 2:1 slope with a rip rap drainage channel collecting flow into a stilling basin at the ravine bottom.



Earthwork and vegetative stabilization was completed by October 2008, achieving a stable site without slope erosion or sediment discharge off of the site.

The finishing touch was to plant 0.9 acres of 2'-3' whips to satisfy the forest conservation requirements for the project. Tree planting was completed in December 2008 and tree maintenance will continue for two years to ensure adequate tree survival. MES performed well through changing site conditions to complete the cleanup and restoration in a timely manner, while managing cost for its client.

# Managing Transfer Station Systems

By: *Stephen T. Lezinski, Engineer III*  
*Montgomery County, DEP/DSWS*

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWANA sponsored a 3-day Managing Transfer Station Systems training course and certification exam during May 5-8, 2009 at the Howard County Government Gateway Offices in Columbia, MD. There were a total of fifteen (15) attendees from Maryland, Washington D.C., and Virginia. Ten (10) attendees took the certification exam. The course instructor was Michael Kalish, P.E. of SCS Engineers, an Environmental Consulting firm.

The training course provided a general overview of transfer station siting, design, operations, emergency response, safety and regulatory compliance criteria and requirements. Specific topics included: facility layout with respect to traffic flow, waste screening techniques, equipment and maintenance, communication with stake holders and record keeping. During each lesson, there was significant interaction between the various attendees regarding operations, lessons learned, regulatory compliance issues, etc.

As part of the training course, a site tour was conducted at the Howard County Alpha Ridge Landfill – Transfer Station. The site tour was lead by Jeff Dannis and Wayne Souder of Howard County. The Transfer Station accepts approximately 200-300 tons per day of residential and commercial waste. Some key design features of this Transfer Station include the separation of vehicles, high level alarm for leachate in the collection sump, and warning alarm for when operations personnel enter the loading tunnel near the live loading scale.

Photo 1 presents the commercial drop-off and Photo 2 presents the residential drop-off locations for depositing waste at the Transfer Station. Note the separation of larger commercial vehicles that typically have automated dumping mechanisms versus smaller public customers that often unload by hand. Photo 3 presents waste management operations inside the Transfer Station with a loader pushing waste and a Backhoe with grapple attachment live loading a transfer trailer.

Special thanks is given to Michael Kalish of SCS Engineers (course instruction); Clare Fadden of Montgomery County (course registration); Jeff Dannis and Wayne Souder of Howard County (accommodations and site tour); and Paradigm Software (meal sponsor). SWANA members received a varied number of continuing education units (CEUs) for attendance based on other currently held SWANA certifications.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Reminders / Wanted

- ◆ “Reporters”/writers for our Chapter newsletter.
- ◆ Important Websites to Remember: [www.swana.org](http://www.swana.org), [www.swana-midatl.org](http://www.swana-midatl.org) & [www.mdrecycles.org](http://www.mdrecycles.org).
- ◆ Training the Trainers: Contact a Board member if interested in being trained to be a trainer for a SWANA course.
- ◆ SWANA E-sessions: If your organization presents e-sessions, make them a Chapter event so that all attendees can get CEU’s. Contact Steve Lippy or Dana Murray or Shirl Wright.
- ◆ Job Vacancies in your Organization: Contact [swright@nmwda.org](mailto:swright@nmwda.org) for inclusion in our Chapter newsletter.
- ◆ Articles, information, recent/on-going projects of interest, active purchase orders, etc.: Contact [swright@nmwda.org](mailto:swright@nmwda.org) to be placed in our Chapter newsletter.
- ◆ Scholarship Sponsors: Contact Steve Lippy, Mehal Trivedi or Hallie Clemm.
- ◆ Name(s) of Prospective SWANA Members: Contact either our Chapter Membership Chair, Jessica Martin ([jmartin@tenax.com](mailto:jmartin@tenax.com)) or Dave Hernandez at SWANA ([dhernandez@swana.org](mailto:dhernandez@swana.org)), or direct the prospective member to our Chapter website ([www.swana-midatl.org](http://www.swana-midatl.org)) or SWANA’s website ([www.swana.org](http://www.swana.org))
- ◆ Newsletter Ads: These are business card size ads only (2” x 3.5”); \$100 for 4 issues. Send your business card or a JPG file and a check made payable to: Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWANA and mail to Shirl Wright at NMWDA, 100 S. Charles Street, Tower II - Suite 402, Baltimore, MD 21201-2705.
- ◆ American Academy of Environmental Engineers: If you are an environmental engineer, you are eligible to become a member or to be certified in solid waste management by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers. See <http://www.swana-midatl.org/> or <http://www.aee.net/>.

## Peer-to-Peer Facility Review

By: *Peter Bieniek, Chief  
Cecil County, Solid Waste Management Division*

Due to a recent regulatory compliance site inspection by the Soil Conservation District at the Cecil County Central Landfill located in Elkton, Maryland, I found myself in a reactive situation instead of a proactive one. Our internal site inspections, which are performed on a Quarterly basis, had neglected to identify obvious erosion and sediment control issues on the side slopes of the soil borrow areas and within several stormwater conveyance ditches of the Landfill. Industry wide, I would state that this is not an uncommon event in regards to human nature; to be so familiar with a Facility that some obvious areas of correction and improvement are overlooked by the naked-eye.

The members of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter (Chapter) of SWANA collectively have many years of combined experience in the management and operation of a variety of solid waste facilities. As a Chapter, I would like to establish a Peer-to-Peer Facility Review Committee (Committee) to harness that industry knowledge. The Committee would be on a voluntary

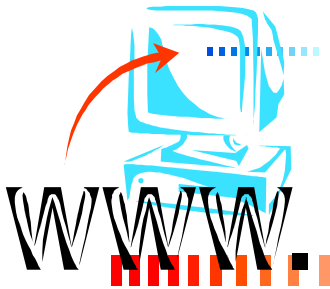
basis and consist of a listing of Chapter Members with expertise in specific areas of solid waste management for the purpose of evaluating Facilities in need.

If a Chapter member would like to have a Peer-to-Peer Facility Review they can contact me. Then, using the Committee listing, I would schedule a convenient time for a small group of Committee members to perform a site visit and Facility Review. The intent is to bring a set of “fresh” eyes to offer constructive suggestions on Facility operations and management. This will also allow participating Committee members to see other operations in action and gain insight for potential improvements at their respective Facilities.

If you have interest in being a part of the Peer-to-Peer Facility Review Committee, please e-mail me at [pbieniek@ccgov.org](mailto:pbieniek@ccgov.org). When I have compiled a suitable list of volunteers for the Committee, I will e-mail the list to the Board of Directors and other Chapter members to verify interest for Facility Reviews.

## Send Us Your "Links"

The SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter's website has a designated page for "Links," and we would like to request from all of our Chapter Members that you provide us with your organization's web link. Please feel free to check out our current links at: <http://www.swana-midatl.org/links.htm>. If you are interested in providing your organization's link on the Chapter website, please send to: [swright@nmwda.org](mailto:swright@nmwda.org). Please note that only one individual from each organization need respond.



## Chapter Membership Directory

Please let Jessica Martin ([jmartin@tenax.com](mailto:jmartin@tenax.com)) know of any changes, additions, or deletions to either yours or someone else's contact information.

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We're on the Web!  
[www.swana-midatl.org](http://www.swana-midatl.org)

July 20, 2009

### SWANA Guiding Principle:

***"Local government is responsible for municipal solid waste management, but not necessarily the ownership and/or operation of municipal solid waste management systems."***